

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

between the

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

of the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE UNITED STATES

and the

Directorate for Single Market: Management and Legislation for Consumer Goods

**of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR
ENTERPRISE**

This Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the Memorandum) is entered between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Directorate for Single Market: Management and Legislation for Consumer Goods for the European Commission Directorate-General for Enterprise (Participants).

Noting the cooperation between the United States of America and the European Union pursuant to Article 3.1.1 of the Transatlantic Economic Partnership Action Plan and the U.S. - European New Transatlantic Agenda,

Recognizing the importance of each Participant's achieving high levels of health, safety, environmental and consumer protection,

Desiring to enhance cooperation and increase the efficient use of resources in matters relating to motor vehicle technical regulation without compromising each Participant's ability to carry out its responsibilities,

Intend to cooperate as follows:

Article I Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum is to strengthen cooperation and communication between the Participants concerning improvements and developments in motor vehicle safety and to enhance, expand, and develop joint efforts to facilitate the exchange information in the regulatory area of motor vehicle safety.

Article II

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants intend that cooperation under this Memorandum may be conducted in the following areas:

1. Development and establishment of technical regulations.
2. Post-implementation reviews of technical regulations.
3. Development and dissemination of consumer information.

Additional areas of cooperation may be identified mutually by the Participants in the future.

Article III

Forms of Cooperation

The Participants intend to maintain an open and continuing dialogue relative to motor vehicle safety standards.

1. The Participants may hold biannual meetings. These meetings will be held, on an alternating basis, in the United States and the EU. The Participants may additionally communicate as needed.
2. The Participants may share information regarding domestic and international programs and agendas.
3. The Participants may jointly contribute to encouraging/promoting greater international harmonization of technical requirements, consistent with the respective motor vehicle safety needs of the Participants, through multilateral forums such as the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29).
4. The Participants may share and discuss research and development plans relative to motor vehicle safety standards.
5. The Participants may conduct joint analyses, as mutually practical and convenient, to promote the development of motor vehicle safety standards.
6. The Participants may develop additional provisions for cooperation.

It is understood that the pace of cooperative efforts under this Memorandum may depend on the respective internal circumstances in United States and the EU and may be affected by factors such as differences or divergences of regulatory

priorities, availability of funds, and difficulties which are at present unforeseen but which could arise during the course of this cooperation.

Article IV Funding

Pursuits of cooperative activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funds to each of the Participants. Funds will not be transferred between the Participants in connection with activities under this Memorandum.

Article V Information Exchange

Cooperative activities, including exchange of information, are subject to the applicable regulatory processes, laws and regulations, and policies of the participants.

Article VI Disclaimer

Each participant should seek to ensure the accuracy of all data and information exchanged pursuant to this Memorandum. However, the accuracy of such data and information is not guaranteed. Therefore, each participant uses the other's data at its own risk.

Article VII Duration

The activities under this Memorandum should commence on the date last appearing below and continue until two months after either participant gives written notice of its intention to cease cooperative activities.

This Memorandum may be amended only by written agreement of both Participants.

Signed on _____, 2001, at _____

U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration

European Commission
Directorate-General for Enterprise
Directorate for Single Market:
Management and Legislation for
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